## LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1.　(Currently Amended) A method for generating an encrypted user data stream, which has a ~~start block~~header and a user data block, comprising the following steps:

generating the ~~start block~~header; and

generating the user data block, which follows the ~~start block~~header, by means of the following substeps:

using a first part of the user data as a start section for the user data block, the start section remaining unencrypted;

encrypting a second part of user data which follow the first part of the user data to obtain encrypted user data; and

appending the encrypted user data to the unencrypted start section.

2.　(Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of generating the ~~start block~~header includes the following substep:

entering the length of the start section in the ~~start block~~header.

3.　(Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the second part does not comprise all the user data to be encrypted and wherein the step of generating the user data block includes the following substep:

appending a third part of user data to be encrypted, which follow the second part, to the encrypted user data of the second part, the user data

of the third part being unencrypted.

4.    (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of generating the ~~start block~~header includes the following substep:

entering the length of the encrypted user data of the second part which are encrypted, in the ~~start block~~header.

5.    (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein the step of generating the ~~start block~~header also includes the following substep:

entering the sum of the length of the encrypted user data, which correspond to the second part, and the length of the third part of the unencrypted user data in the ~~start block~~header.

6.    (Currently Amended) A method for playing back an encrypted multimedia data stream, which has a ~~start block~~header and a user data block, where a start section of the user data block, which follows the ~~start block~~header, contains unencrypted user data and where a further section of the user data block contains encrypted user data, where the ~~start block~~header contains information which is needed to play back the start section of the user data block and where the ~~start block~~header contains information which is not needed to play back the unencrypted start section of the user data block, comprising the following steps:

processing the information of the ~~start block~~header which is needed to play back the start section of the user data block; and

playing back the unencrypted start section of the user data block.

7.    (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 6, which also includes the following steps:

processing the information of the ~~start block~~header which is not needed to play back the unencrypted start section;

decrypting the further section of the user data block using the processed information of the ~~start block~~header; and

playing back the encrypted user data of the further section of the user data block.

8.    (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein the step of processing the information of the ~~start block~~header which is not needed to play back the unencrypted start section is performed concurrently with the playing back of the unencrypted start section.

9.    (Original) A method according to claim 6, wherein the length of the unencrypted start section of the user data block is between 1 and 60 seconds.

10.    (Original) A method according to claim 6, wherein the user data to be encrypted are coded and wherein the information which is needed for playing back contains an entry specifying the type of coding/decoding method.

11.    (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the user data are audio and/or video data.

12.    (Currently Amended) A device for generating an encrypted user data stream, which has a ~~start block~~header and a user data block, comprising:

a unit for generating the ~~start block~~header; and

a unit for generating the user data block, which follows the ~~start block~~header, with the following features:

a unit for using a first part of the user data as start section for the user data block, the start section remaining unencrypted;

a unit for encrypting a second part of the user data which follows the first part to obtain encrypted user data; and

a unit for appending the encrypted user data to the unencrypted start section.

13.    (Currently Amended) A device for playing back an encrypted user data stream, which has a ~~start block~~header and a user data block, where a start section of the user data block, which follows the ~~start block~~header, contains unencrypted user data and where a further section of the user data block contains encrypted user data, where the ~~start block~~header contains information which is needed to play back the start section of the user data block and where the ~~start block~~header contains information which is not needed to play back the unencrypted start section of the user data block, comprising:

a unit for processing only the information of the ~~start block~~header which is needed to play back the start section of the user data block; and

a unit for playing back the unencrypted start section of the user data block in response to the unit for processing.

14.   (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 13, which further comprises:

a unit for processing the information of the ~~start block~~header which is not needed to play back the unencrypted start section;

a unit for decrypting the further section of the user data block using the processed information of the ~~start block~~header; and

a unit for playing back the encrypted user data of the further section of the user data block.

15.   (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 14, wherein the unit for processing the information of the ~~start block~~header which is not needed to play back the unencrypted start section is designed to be operated concurrently to the unit for playing back the unencrypted start section.

16.   (Original) A device according to claim 13 which is implemented as a stereo system, hifi unit, solid state player, a playback unit with a hard disk or CD ROM, or a computer.

17.   (Original) A device according to claim 12, wherein the user data are audio and/or video data.

18.   (Currently Amended) A method of playing back an encrypted user data stream, which has a ~~start block~~header and a user data block, where a start section of the user data block, which follows the ~~start block~~header, contains unencrypted user data and where a further section of the user data block contains encrypted user data, where the ~~start block~~header contains information which is needed to play back the start section of the user data block and where the ~~start block~~header contains information

which is not needed to play back the unencrypted start section of the user data block, comprising:

processing only the information of the ~~start block~~header which is needed to play back the start section of the user data block; and

playing back the unencrypted start section of the user data block in response to the step of processing.

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